

THE
York-Buildings
DRAGONS;

OR,

A Full and true Account of a most
Horrid and Barbarous Murder,

Intended to be committed

On Monday the 14th of Febr. next (being Valentine's-day)

ON THE

BODIES, GOODS, and NAME of the greatest Part of his Majesty's *Liege Subjects*, dwelling and inhabiting between *Temple-Bar* in the EAST, and *St. James's* in the WEST; and between *Hungerford-Market* in the SOUTH, and *St. Mary la Bonne* in the NORTH, by a *Sett of Evil-minded Persons*, who (by the Instigation of *PLUTUS*, and not having the Fear of several Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen, *before their Eyes*) do assemble Twice A-week, to carry on their *wicked Purposes*, in a private Room over a Stable, by the *Thames* Side, in a remote Corner of the Town.

The Second Edition, Augmented by almost Half,

CONTAINING

Several more wonderful DISCOVERIES, and concluding with *Orlando Furioso's* SPEECH, and *Prudentio's* ANSWER.

By J. T. Desaguliers

Ἀβομίναβλε, ἰνυτλεῖαβλε, ἀνδ' εὐῶρε
 Θὰν φαβλὲς ἰέτ' ἀρε φείνδ, ὅρ φεὰρ κινσεῖρδ,
 Γόργωνε, ἀνδ' ὕδρεας, ἀρδ Χιμῶεας δῖρε.

Μίλιων.

LONDON: Printed for J. ROBERTS, at the *Oxford-Arms* in
Warwick-Lane. 1726. (Price 6d.)

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DRA 5012



OW these Conspirators have purchased Two enormous *Dragons* from the Desarts of *Lybia* (of such monstrous Size, that the Tail of one of 'em is a Mile and an Half long) which they have brought into this Metropolis *incognito*, by the Assistance of a Conjuror, whom they have employ'd in that Matter.

This Conjuror, therefore, by the Help of an Hunting-Whip, that has a *Talisman* in the Handle of it, contriv'd a Means to run these *Dragons* without paying any Duty to the Government: For, by applying this *Talisman* to the Head of each *Dragon*, he shut up all the Life within one particular Gland of the Head; and then anatomically dissected the two Monsters, so that they cou'd be easily stow'd in several Ships, and be brought in as coming from different Parts of the World.

—And accordingly most of the Nerves and Sinews came from *Sweden*, the greatest Part of the Head from *Norway*, by the Help of another Conjuror, who combin'd with the First, and procur'd several of the Parts to be set on Shore, and privately brought cross the Country by Land; accordingly the Joints, and Veins, and Ar-

teries were brought from *Derby-shire*; the Breast from *Worcester-shire*; and the Back and Wings from *Kent*, *Surrey*, *Bark-shire*, and *Hartford-shire*; the Belly from *Cornwal*; and the greatest part of the Tail from the *West-Country*, except the thick End next to the Body, which, together with the Snout and Teeth, came out of *Suffex* by Sea, and pass'd at the *Custom-House* for some outlandish Curiosity, imported by some *Virtuoso's* of *Great-Britain*.----And you know *Natural Knowledge* is so much encourag'd, that such Things never pay any Duty, but pass unexamined; witness *Villette's* great Burning-Glass, the *Hugenian* Telescope, and the Wax-work Anatomies. Now, if there had been any *Astrologers* among the *Custom-House* Officers, nothing of this would have happen'd; for they are perfectly well-acquainted with *Dragons Heads* and *Dragons Tails*. But what would you have Men do that never saw a *Dragon* in all their Lives? Since there never was any in this Kingdom before, but One, and that was at *Wantley*, almost Two Hundred Miles distant from *London*, who was kill'd by *MORE* of *More-Hall*, before he could come Southward; and he was but a little *Dragon* in Comparison; for he only devour'd *Three Children* (and that was as much as he could do;) whereas these *Dragons* either have, or will devour whole Families, unless some wise and good Magistrate will cause to be reprinted and publish'd a *CLAUSE* in an *Act of Parliament*, which does actually forbid those very Persons to make use of *Dragons* of any Kind.

But to return to our Account.---The *Conjurer* and his Abettors have conceal'd, under a large Tract of Ground, the dreadful Tail of one of these Monsters, and are now revivifying the whole Animal by the Re-

Re-Union of its Parts; and diffusing its Life from the *Glandula Pinealis* to the very Extremities of the Nostrils, Wings, and Tail.

Now prepare to bear the most dreadful Catastrophe that ever did happen within these Three Kingdoms, and which will certainly come to pass on the said 14th of February; for I fully know their whole Design.

ON Monday, therefore, the 14th of February, 1725-26, 17 Minutes and 39 Seconds past 10 in the Morning, a *Lancashire* Wizzard, with green matted Locks and grim Visage, will, for some Hours, feed the eldest Dragon with live Coals; and a Welsh-Man, bred on the Top of *Penmanmaur*, and arm'd with a native impenetrable Helmet, will lay hold of the Bridle, to direct the Motion of the Creature. Then, on the sudden, will the Monster clap his Wings several Times successively, with prodigious Force and incredible Velocity; and so terrible will be the Noise thereof, that it will be heard as far as *CALAIS*, and farther too if the Wind sit right. All those that have musical Ears, within the Bills of Mortality, will be struck dead; those *that have no Ear* will become deaf; and all that were deaf before, will start up and run away.

The next Disaster will be occasion'd by the *Welsh-man*, who will cry *Bob!* to make the Dragon drink, who immediately dipping his two Heads into the *Thames*, will suck out thence such a prodigious Quantity of Water, that Barges will never more be able to go thro' Bridge; the Wharfs will become useless from the *Steel-Yard* to *Mill-Bank*; and the Tide will

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not rise high enough to fill the Bason of a Sett of good-natur'd Gentlemen, who have been at immense Pains to serve the new Buildings with Water, *mind-
ing their own Business, and never meddling, or finding
the least Fault* with other Peoples Projects. Such a barbarous Disappointment is enough to make a Stone complain; and poor *Jack R-----* will drink two Gallons of Wine for very Spight, *damn himself, and curse
the Dragon.*

The next Calamity will be this, ----- That whereas the *Dragon* lives upon *Newcastle* and *Scotch Coal* (which, by the by, will produce a Scarcity of Coal, by reason of the great Consumption) and other bituminous Substances, and is of himself of a *buffing, snuffling* Temper, He will dart out of his Nostrils perpendicularly up to the Skies two such vast dense and opaque Columns of Smoak, that those who live in the *Burrough* will hardly see the Sun at Noon-day, especially if it be cloudy withal. ----- Now this Smoak being *ponderous*, will descend again upon all the neighbouring Inhabitants; being *elastick*, will spread and fall upon all the Ever Greens within Ten Miles of *London*; and being *fuliginous*, will so discolour their Hue, that it will puzzle a very nice *Botanist* to determine concerning any Leaf within that Compass of Ground, whether it be of a *subfusc* or a downright *piceous* Colour, after this Accident. HAPPY will then the Ladies be, who have paper'd up all their Furniture before they went out of Town! Happy the Stationers, who have timely shut up their Shops to preserve their Paper! And *thrice happy* the poor Washer-Women, who have clos'd up and pointed the
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the Garret Windows where they have hung up their Linnen Cloaths to dry.—Besides all this, the sulphureous Particles, arising from the Coals, will be so pernicious to the Lungs of all that suck them in, that they will break several Blood-Vessels with Coughing: So that nothing will be able to stop the *Hæmorrhage*, except the famous *Styptick* of a publick-spirited Physician, who is always *partial* to others, and *impartial* to himself.—Add to all this, That upon the Subsiding of this black Pillar, the Cities of *London* and *Westminster* will lose Sight of one another, tho' in the clearest Day: So that no Body can possibly receive any Benefit by this Contrivance, unless it be the Link-Boys, who will be absolutely necessary to conduct People through the Smoak.

MOREOVER, the *Dragon* carries a Cylindrick Bomb upon his Back, which, whenever he pleases, he can break into Ten Thousand Pieces; for being a Serpent of the *Offifragous* Kind (such as that whose Skin Dr. M—— gave to the *Royal-Society*, but abundantly bigger) he has no more to do but to wind himself about the said *dead-doing* Machine, as the others do about Sheep and Horses; and then stretching out at once, the Bomb will be crush'd into Atoms about as big as a Man's Fist, which meeting in their Center, and darting again from thence every way in all Directions, will kill Men, Women, and Children, besides Widows and Orphans that come within the Sphere of its Activity. Then will be levell'd to the Ground the glorious Edifices in those Streets that make up the Name of *GEORGE VILLIERS DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM*. But

But the worst Consequence of all, and which I almost dread to relate, is, *This Dragon's Way of Poysoning*.—Thro' a long *Proboscis*, something like an Elephant's Trunk, this Creature can at pleasure filtrate and suck in all the venomous *Effluvia* out of the Air, Water, and other Fluids. And therefore to make up the Desolation of this poor City, he will, from the *Thames*, in great Abundance, draw in all the *Fætido-cabbageous*, *Dead-doggitious*, *Dead-catitious*, *Fish-street-billious*, *Drury-lanious*, *Issue-plasterious*, *Excrementitious*, and all *Common-shoreitious* Particles therein contain'd from time to time; and having therewith fill'd his Stomach, this *Stygious* Compound will pass the Pylorus, and being carried along the *Viscera* by the *peristaltick* Motion, and so moving on to the *Rectum*, will issue out at the *Anus* (which in this Animal is in the last Joint of the Tail) with great Stench, in vast Quantities, into a large Receptacle, prepar'd by the aforesaid Conjuror, for receiving and containing this hellish Liquor. Now, as this Fluid is always to run in, and never to go out, but by Exhalation, it is evident to all *Chymists* and *Naturalists*, and several other ingenious Gentlemen besides, that there must be an intestine Motion, because the Fluid stands still, and this intestine Motion will cause a Fermentation, which Fermentation will cast out *undequaque* such pestiferous Steams and Vapours, as will depopulate all the whole Neighbourhood, in such a manner that Grass will grow in *QUEEN ANNE-street*, *CHAANDOS-street*, *MORTIMER-street*, and all the adjacent Streets, till the *Genius of Architecture* comes to the Relief of the desolate Place. — And if it should so happen, that, by the violent Motions of
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of the *Beast*, it shou'd receive any Wounds in it's Tail; from every Wound will issue, with Impetuosity, Rivers of this abominable Liquor, which will inundate, and render impassable, the Streets, drown all those that come within its *Vortex*; and such as venture to look out of their Chamber-Windows will be suffocated with the putrid Vapour.

To conclude my dismal Story; I must let the World know, that these Conspirators are Enemies to the Souls as well as the Bodies of all Persons they can have any Influence over, by setting up a new Kind of *Po-pery*, and have already persuaded several Families to worship these *Dragons*. Among other Things, they have a Ceremony much like *TRANSUBSTANTIATION*; for, by the Mixture of *Ceres* and *Neptune* (*and what is the Popish Host but Bread and Water?*) they have contriv'd a *consigillated Wafer*, which turns Paper into Money.

Now, to give my Reader a little Hope, before I quit this melancholy Tale, I must acquaint him, that a Sett of honest and couragious Gentlemen intend to prosecute these *vile Men*, who will find themselves deceiv'd in trusting to the *Toleration Act*; for that Act allows of no *Image-Worship* within Ten Miles of *London*, except it be in a Foreign Amb-----r's Chappel.

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Written

Written by
A Club of ingenious Gentlemen,

Who meet once a Week, at B----m's Coffee-House,
 to settle the *Mechanical, Physical, and Moral*
 World, viz.

S. CATHEDRAL, A.M. of }
 O. College, Reviver of the } Chair-Man.
*ancient Sternholdian Poetry, **

The REVIVER of ancient }
 Flocution, ----- } Second Chair-Man.

R. ----- BUMP ----- D, Esq; --- } Chief Engineer.

B. ----- LANG ----- Y, Master of }
 the Focus, ----- } Chief Engineer.

MATT ----- PAL ----- R, the }
greatest Engineer in the World, -- } Chief Engineer.

FR --- CONR --- de HATZ --- D, }
who first stich'd up the Perpe- } Chief Engineer.
tuum Mobile in England, -----

G ----- GORD ----- N, Longi- }
tude-Finder, ----- } First Mathematician.

* See his *Epistle to the University*, on the Death of the Bishop of Durham, Printed
 at Oxford in the Year 1721.

G—O S M—D, *Plumber, great* } Describer of the Ve-
Pencil-Bearer, ————— } locities.

GOLDEN QUILL, † — — } Settler of all Am-
biguities.

Besides all the *Wind-Engineers*,
from the *Quail-Pipe* to the great
double *Water-Bellows*.

† See the Poetry at the End of Ward's Young Mathematician's Guide.

Anodyne Necklace, SECRETARY.



POSTSCRIPT.



ANODYNE, the only *Rosicrucian*
Philosopher now in *England*, truly
adept in the occult Sciences; con-
sidering that the World, thro' Envy,
Prejudice, and Ignorance, will not
do Justice to Merit, am resolv'd to
publish my self; at least so far as I
have deserv'd well of the Town in my
Attempts against the *York-Buildings Dragons*. Be it
known therefore, that I am the Man, who, thro' my Skill
in *Astrology* and *Physick*, and indefatigable Industry, first
discover'd the Malignity and pernicious Nature of the
Dragons, together with all the Designs of the *Conspirators*
—and this Discovery I communicated to our CLUB, who
unanimously

unanimously agreed that it ought to be publish'd to the World ; but they wou'd not consent to my Proposal of having the Books *given gratis up one pair of Stairs, at the Sign of the Anodyne Necklace &c.* for Reasons best known to the Printer and some of the Club : But however, they have given me Leave, every new Edition, to communicate what Discoveries I shall make, without encreasing the Price of the Book.

About two Months ago, there was a great Confusion among the evil-minded Company, by the Death of one of their Conjurers, who had been us'd to educate *Dragons* all his Life. D'you think a Bolus was not given him ? I w'ont say I gave him one ; but--well I am publick-spirited.

About five Weeks ago, an ill-set Ladder gave a plaguy Fall to another of their Conjurers, who (as they pretend) has only a Fit of the Gout ; but I know he had such a Contusion on his *Cranium*, that his *pia* and *dura mater* will never again perform their Functions. No fear of his *running* any more *Dragons*.---But who is to be thank'd for the setting the Ladder ?

I had, about a Fortnight ago, provided two Dozen of the best true-bred *English* Bull-Dogs, under the Direction of GOLDEN-QUILL, and half a Score *Irish* Mastiffs, ready to be set on by a lusty Champion of that Country, who wou'd have certainly pull'd the *Dragon* to pieces after half a Dozen *Halloo there and Arrha now's* ; but a false Brother disappointed my good Intentions, and inform'd the Enemy of my Preparations. Our *Longitude-finder* I mean, having been long us'd to *Reflections*, took it in his Head to make a Reflecting Telescope ; and being assisted in carrying on his Work by some of the Conspirators, reveal'd to them all that pass'd at the Club, and has not been seen amongst us since. This is the Reason why,

why, when the Dragon began his Motions on the 20th of *December*, as I had given Notice in the former Edition, he only piss'd into the Receptacle, then hastily retir'd into his Den, for fear of the Bull-Dogs and Mastiffs.

And now the Conspirators have got amongst 'em an old Magician, who was the first that made *Dragons* tame, that directed all their Motions, and taught others how to govern those unruly Animals. The Counsels of this Enchanter give me much Uneasiness; for he discovers in a Moment all that is intended against the *Dragons*; and I do believe he will render 'em invincible. He wou'd not suffer the eldest Dragon to sally forth on *Monday* the 20th of *December*; but order'd, that both the Creatures shou'd be loos'd at once on *Valentine's Day* next; because then, as all other Birds chuse their Mates, so they will be pair'd like loving Pidgeons, and in all Dangers stand by one another *to their last Drop of Dragon's Blood*.

This is what I have been able to discover; and tho' I can't prevent it, I have the Satisfaction of having inform'd the Publick.



ORLANDO FURIOSO *having sent several Times to all his Neighbours, who live within sight of the Dragon's Den, at last got 'em together, and made the following SPEECH.*

GENTLEMEN and Neighbours, I am glad to see you all here, but at the same time sorry that I shou'd find so much Difficulty to bring you together to consider what is to be done, at this Conjunction, for our common Interest. For Heaven's sake, don't let us be indolent, when imminent Danger hangs over our Heads. Will you tamely stay to be deafen'd with the noisy Roar of the *bellish Dragons*?

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Will you be suffocated with the Smoak of their Nostils, and scalded with their burning Snivel? Will you let your Children be frighted into Fits with the dreadful Appearance? Will you stay till all your Wives China is broken with the terrible Concussions of the Dragons Tails? And sit quietly till your Houses fall about your Ears? Come, come, for shame, sign this Paper; let us join in an Action against these pernicious Invaders of our Properties and Disturbers of our Repose.----What, Gentlemen! Will no body sign? Whose flattering Words have bewitch'd you into this slothful but groundless Security? What, because you do not actually see your Danger, do you remain inactive? Believe me, Gentlemen, I can see into Futurity; I know the Nature of all Physical Bodies; I have ground in a Mortar, Salt, Sulphur, and Mercury, the *Chymists* three grand Principles. I have seen the four Elements at War, and have pacify'd their Rage. None, like me, is perfectly acquainted with the Nature of Earth, Water, Air, and Fire. Knowing what is likely to happen, I'm always prepar'd; my Maxim is, *Principiis obsta--- venienti occurrere morbo*; which is as much as to say in *English*, *The first Blow is half the Battle*.

Perhaps some of you think it is not according to Law, to bring an Action before there be an actual Nuisance; but let me tell you, I understand Law as well as Physick; and to shew what Grounds I go upon, let me read you a Clause in an Act of Parliament, which shews, that our Adversaries act contrary to Law.——“ And it is declar'd and “ enacted, that it shall not be lawful to or for the Company of *Undertakers for Raising the Thames Water in* “ *York-Buildings*, or their Successors, to erect or set up “ any Wind-mill or Chain-pump, *whereby* to annoy, or “ in any sort to offend the Inhabitants of the said Buildings, &c. Plague,

Plague, some Fool has interlin'd over the Word *Whereby*;
 “ *this is relative*,--- as if they might set up *Wind-mills* and
Chain-pumps, provided they did not annoy their Neigh-
 bours. What Nonsense! Can that be possible? Why a
Wind-mill always annoys the Neighbourhood. That's the
 Reason that they build 'em upon a Hill far from Towns.
 And for the same Reason they send *Chain-pumps* to Sea far
 from Land. And at last, suppose these People should only
 use *Dragons*; it is very plain that the Intent of the Law is
 against 'em; for *Wind-mills* and *Dragons* are synonymous
 Terms; and I'll make it out to you, that *Wind-mills* sig-
 nify *Dragons*.

First, a *Wind-mill* always faces the Wind; so does the
Dragon on *Bow-Steeple*. Secondly, a *Dragon* has Wings;
 so has a *Wind-mill*, only they call 'em Sails. Thirdly, a
Dragon has dreadful Claws and a long Tail; and a *Wind-*
mill has a Mill-post. —No, Gentlemen, that is not right;
 but I cou'd have made it out very plain just before you
 came in. —However, you may depend upon it, that a
Wind-mill, in this Clause, does signify a *Dragon*; and if
 any one says to the contrary, he's a Son of a Whore, and
 I'll send him to Jayl.

Besides, Gentlemen, if no Hurt shou'd happen in these
 Parts, I have a pretty *Whirligig*, that spins twice a-day,
 about two Miles up the Water, and shall speedily have
 three more; and I'm credibly inform'd, that as soon as the
 two *Dragons* get abroad, they will swallow up my four
Whirligigs; therefore I say, *Down with the Dragons*, and
 all that are of my Opinion hold up your Hands.

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Upon this, PRUDENTIO, a plain, honest Tradesman, who has a good Estate in the Neighbourhood, stood up and made ANSWER.

SIR Orlando, I have heard your elaborate Speech with all the Attention I am Master of; and all I can gather from it is, that you have your own Interest at Heart much more than that of your Neighbourhood. You tell us strange Stories of these *Dragons*, which if you believe, you must be very ignorant; and if you don't, you are--- a Name that I wou'd not call a Magistrate. *Dragons* are not such things as they are describ'd in the *Seven Champions of Christendom*. Was not all the Town entertain'd last Winter with the *Dragon* in *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*? I took my Wife and Children several times, who were highly delighted; and we cou'd not perceive that the *Dragon* everdid any Mischief, or swallow'd up any Body but Doctor *Faustus*. For my part, I know the Masters of the *Dragons* to be very honest Gentlemen, and shall be highly pleas'd to see the Working of the *Dragons*, when they are ready. If there shou'd be a Nufance, which I don't believe there will, (neither do I imagin that you do) it will be time enough then to *present* the *Dragons*, and I shall be as forward as my Neighbours. But you are solicitous about your *Whirligigs* up the Water: What are they to us in *York-Buildings*, that we shou'd be wheedled in to their Defence? I don't care if the *Dragons* crack half a Dozen *Whirligigs* for Breakfast every Morning.--- Gentlemen, this is only losing our Time; farewel.--- Those that have nothing else to do may stay.

So saying, PRUDENTIO went away, and all the rest follow'd him, leaving Sir ORLANDO in a Muz.

F N I S.

